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## **Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, May 19, 2017 – Restructure Experimental and Applied Psychological Science Specialization**

Utah State University

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Utah System of Higher Education  
Changes to Existing Academic Program Proposal  
Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template

Institution Submitting Request: Utah State University

	<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed (if applicable)</i>
Program Title:	Experimental and Applied Psychological Science (EAPS) Specialization in Psychology PhD Program	Experimental and Applied Psychological Science specialization into four new specializations: Behavior Analysis, Brain and Cognition, Quantitative Psychology, and Sociobehavioral Epidemiology

Sponsoring School, College, or Division: College of Education and Human Services

Sponsoring Academic Department(s) or Unit(s): Psychology

Classification of Instruction Program Code<sup>1</sup>: 42.2704 42.2704, 42.2706, 42.2708, 42.2709

Min/Max Credit Hours for Full Program Required: 70 / 70 70 / 70

Proposed Effective Term for Program Change<sup>2</sup>: Fall 2017

Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date: 03/03/2017

Award Type: Doctoral Degree

Program Change Type (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Change of Existing Program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Program Restructure with or without Consolidation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Transfer to a new academic department or unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Suspension
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Discontinuation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	Out of Service Area Delivery Program

**Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:**

I, the Chief Academic Officer or Designee, certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Edward M. Reeve \_\_\_\_\_ Date: April 19, 2017

☒ I understand that checking this box constitutes my legal signature.

<sup>1</sup> For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

<sup>2</sup> "Proposed Effective Term" refers to term when change to program is published. For Suspensions and Discontinuations, "effective term" refers to the term the program will suspend admissions.

## Program Change Description - Abbreviated Template

### Section I: The Request

Utah State University requests approval to restructure Experimental and Applied Psychological Science specialization into four new specializations: Behavior Analysis, Brain and Cognition, Quantitative Psychology, and Sociobehavioral Epidemiology effective Fall 2017. This action was approved by the institutional Board of Trustees on .

### Section II: Program Proposal

#### Program Change Description/Rationale

*Present a brief program change description. Describe the institutional procedures used to arrive at a decision for the change. Briefly indicate why such a change should be initiated. State how the institution and the USHE benefit by the change.*

There are two main reasons for this change. One, the name "Experimental and Applied Psychological Science" is too broad. The current specialization is already informally organized into four distinct emphasis areas with different groups of faculty providing specialized training in each area. The broad name of the current specialization fails to convey the specific training in these emphasis areas and negatively impacts student recruitment as a result. Two, these diverse areas of focus make it challenging to address all the training needs within one specialization. Thus, there is a need to create four specializations to both better recruit students and better reflect the specialized training students receive.

#### Consistency with Institutional Mission/Institutional Impact

*Explain how the action is consistent with the institution's Regent-approved mission, roles, and goals. Institutional mission and roles may be found at [higheredutah.org/policies/policy312/](http://higheredutah.org/policies/policy312/) . Indicate if the program will be delivered outside of designated service area; provide justification. Service areas are defined in [higheredutah.org/policies/policy315/](http://higheredutah.org/policies/policy315/) . Will faculty or staff structures be impacted by the proposed change?*

The proposed change will not impact current administrative structures. Enrollment in the Psychology PhD program is expected to be positively impacted. It is likely that more applications will be received due to the increased specificity of the restructured specializations. Faculty within these proposed specializations have capacity to take additional doctoral students so it is likely that enrollments will increase slightly. The restructure of the existing specialization will not require changes to current faculty and staff appointments. No new physical facilities or modification to existing facilities will be required.

Current students (n= 30) in the Experimental and Applied Psychological Science specialization will be allowed to continue in this specialization or switch to one of the new specializations. Once all students currently in the Experimental and Applied Psychological Science specialization have graduated or switched specializations, this specialization will be dropped.

#### Finances

*What costs or savings are anticipated from this change? If new funds are required to implement the change, indicate expected sources of funds. Describe any budgetary impact on other programs or units within the institution.*

No new funding is required to make this change. While the number of students admitted under these new specializations may increase, there is capacity for additional students and the increase in student would be modest (e.g., 3-5 new students per year).